

# A Byestanders Observations on the RIPON BILL.

CUP 21.9.42/65

**T**HE opposers of the RIPON BILL will put a better colour on their conduct, if they will publicly assign some just and reasonable objection to a measure, which they themselves were the authors and beginners of.

**T**HE MAYOR (Mr. BECKWITH) requests the inhabitants of RIPON. will meet him at the Town-hall, in Ripon, on Friday next the 24th instant, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to take into consideration the propriety of an application to parliament for an ACT for lighting, paving and removing nuisances, in the streets and public highways of the Borough of RIPON.

RIPON, 17th December 1790.

The meeting in consequence of this pleasing summons was fully and respectably attended, and evinced a more enlarged virtue and public spirit, than the promoters were aware of, or perhaps wished.

It brought to public view, and general, and unanswered censure, many grievous oppressions hitherto but silently born, or at best but feebly complained of, and which alone, it is melancholy to add, would have been sufficient ground for immediate application to parliament for relief. It laid bare the inequality of all the assessments, the unfair and unjustifiable practice of charging different rates on the several inhabitants, the raising large sums over and above the actual expenditure, sums still NOT publicly accounted for, tho' publicly called for, it laid bare the application of monies unjustifiably raised to unjustifiable purposes, in short such a catalogue of otherwise ir-remediable evils as too clearly evinced the necessity of this measure.

Every disinterested, every discerning, and I believe every good man looked up to those persons, who have it most in their power effectually to support so virtuous a cause, and from whom they had every reason to expect it, but alas! two or three private and interested individuals alarmed at the probable discovery of so detestable a complication of almost all varieties of injustice, which they themselves had poured on the devoted heads of their townsmen, and fearing the consequence of an open and impossible to be concealed detection, shrunk from the works of their own hands, and basely deserting the bill they proposed, had recourse to dark and mysterious measures with the great characters above alluded to, and by infusing into their minds false and injurious opinions respecting the operations of the intended bill, have procured, but it is hoped for a short time only, that CONCEALMENT they so eagerly pant for.